



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 07, 2026

INTERNATIONAL

India-EU launch ₹169 crore project to boost EV battery recycling capacity

- India and the European Union have launched a ₹169 crore joint initiative under the India-EU Trade and Technology Council to strengthen EV battery recycling capacity.
- The project focuses on recovering critical materials like lithium, cobalt, and nickel from used batteries to support a circular economy and reduce environmental impact.
- The initiative, involving Ajay Kumar Sood and Hervé Delphin, will develop advanced recycling technologies, digital tracking systems, and pilot-scale facilities in India.
- Funded through Horizon Europe and India's Ministry of Heavy Industries, it aims to boost clean energy supply chains and support sustainable EV growth through research, innovation, and industrial deployment.

NATIONAL

CRRI-BPCL project earns India Book of Records and Asia Book of Records honours

- CSIR-Central Road Research Institute and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited have been recognized by the India Book of Records and Asia Book of Records for developing India's first road section using geocells made from end-of-life plastic waste.
- This innovation converts non-recyclable plastic into durable geocell structures that enhance soil stability and road strength.
- It supports sustainable infrastructure by promoting a circular economy and reducing plastic pollution.
- The project showcases successful collaboration between research and industry, offering an eco-friendly, resilient alternative for future road construction.

Centre Moves to Grant Vande Mataram Anthem Like Legal Status on 150th anniversary

- Vande Mataram marks 150 years since it was written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875.
- The Union Cabinet led by Narendra Modi has proposed granting it legal protection equivalent to the National Anthem, Jana Gana Mana, through amendments to the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act.
- A key symbol of India's freedom movement, Vande Mataram was adopted as the National Song in 1950.
- The proposed amendment would make intentional disrespect, disruption, or mockery during official renditions punishable under law, similar to protections already provided for the National Anthem.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India launches JANANI Digital Platform

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the JANANI Platform (Journey of Antenatal, Natal and Neonatal Integrated Care) to strengthen maternal and child health services through a unified digital system.
- The platform tracks care across pregnancy, childbirth, postnatal services, newborn care, and early childhood health, ensuring continuous monitoring from antenatal to young child stages.

- It is designed to improve coordination between healthcare workers such as ASHAs, ANMs, and hospitals by maintaining integrated digital health records and enabling early detection of medical risks.
- This initiative aligns with India's broader digital health push under programs like the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission to improve accessibility, continuity, and quality of healthcare services.

AWARDS

Soma Mandal wins South Asia award in Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards 2026

- Soma Mandal has been named the South Asia regional winner of the Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards 2026 for her work in environmental and climate change education.
- She was selected from over 12,000 nominations across 126 countries and recognized among nine global regional winners for promoting sustainability awareness and climate-focused learning among students.
- The award, organised by Cambridge University Press & Assessment, highlights her innovative teaching approach that encourages students to engage with real-world environmental challenges and develop problem-solving skills.
- Regional winners receive classroom grants, trophies, international recognition, and inclusion in future Cambridge educational publications, with a global winner to be chosen through public voting.

DEFENSE

MoD Inks ₹1,476 Crore BEL Contract for Army Electronic Systems

- The **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** signed a **₹1,476 crore** contract with **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)** to procure **five Ground-Based Mobile Electronic Systems** for the **Indian Army**.
- **Procurement Specifics:**

- Includes the acquisition of five Ground-Based Mobile Electronic Systems.
- Intended exclusively for the deployment within the Indian Army.
- **Manufacturing Details:**
 - Executed by the Hyderabad unit of Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).
 - Approved under the Buy (Indian-IDDMM) (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) category.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Athletics Day observed on May 7 with focus on youth fitness

- World Athletics Day is observed every year on May 7 to promote fitness, sportsmanship, and active lifestyles through athletics such as running, jumping, and throwing. It encourages children and youth to stay physically active in an increasingly digital world.
- The day originated in 1996 under the initiative of former IAAF President Primo Nebiolo, with the idea of expanding athletics participation among young people worldwide during the centenary of the modern Olympics.
- Now governed by World Athletics (formerly IAAF), the event has grown into a global youth sports movement promoting health, inclusion, and equal access to sports.
- World Athletics Day 2026 continues this mission by inspiring schools and communities worldwide to engage young people in physical activity and identify future athletic talent.

SPORTS NEWS

Delhi to host Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship 2026 at Thyagaraj Stadium

- Delhi will host the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship 2026 at Thyagaraj Stadium from July 27 to August 2, with participation expected from over 35 countries.

- Organised jointly by the Delhi government and the Table Tennis Federation of India, the event will feature multiple categories and finals on August 2, showcasing international competition and sportsmanship.
- Countries including England, Australia, Canada, Malaysia, South Africa, and others are expected to compete, highlighting the tournament's global reach within the Commonwealth sporting community.
- The event also aligns with Delhi's broader push to strengthen sports infrastructure and promote international events as part of its long-term sports development vision.

